

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 05759 170824Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 COME-00
/082 W

-----063070 170842Z /10

R 170512Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1115
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINAPORE
AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
CINCPAC HONOLULU

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD
BRUSSELS FOR USEC

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, ASEAN, AS
SUBJ: AUSTRALIA AT ASEAN: FRASER AT KUALA LUMPUR

REF: CANBERRA 05662 (DTG 120650Z AUG 77)

1. DFA FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY ALF PARSONS, SOUTH EAST
ASIA AND PNG DIVISION, CONFIRMED TO DCM ON LATTER'S INITIAL
COURTESY CALL AUGUST 16 THAT THE "FIVE PLUS ONE" ASEAN
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MEETING WITH AUSTRALIA'S PRIME MINISTER FRASER HAD NOT BEEN
CONFRONTATIONAL "THIS TIME", AND HAD BEEN USEFUL FROM
AUSTRALIA'S POINT OF VIEW. TO CALL IT A "FIVE PLUS ONE"
MEETING, SAID PARSONS, WAS DECEPTIVE AS EACH OF THE
SIX COUNTRIES INVOLVED HAD ABOUT TWENTY REPRESENTATIVES
IN THE ROOM.

2. PARSONS NOTED THAT APART FROM THE PROJECTED ASEAN-AUSTRALIAN JOINT CONSULTATIVE GROUP, THE DECISION HAD BEEN MADE TO HOLD AN ANNUAL TRADE FAIR ON THE AUSTRALIAN SOIL WHICH WOULD FEATURE ASEAN EXPORTS TO AUSTRALIA AS WELL AS AUSTRALIAN EXPORTS TO ASEAN.

3. ADDITIONALLY AUSTRALIA WAS PLANNING TO SET UP SIX ECONOMIC RESEARCH TEMAS, ONE FOR EACH ASEAN COUNTRY AND FOR AUSTRALIA ITSELF, TO STUDY IN DEPTH EACH OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMIES WITH A VIEW TO CREATING A DATA BASE FOR RATIONSL HARMONIZATION OF TRADE, ECONOMIES AND ECONOMIC ACTIONS. THIS WOULD ENABLE BETTER INFORMED JUDGEMENTS TO BE MADE ON ECONOOMIC MATTERS, SOMETHING THAT IN THE PAST AUSTRALIA HAD FOUND AN INSURPERABLE OBSTACLE IN DEALING WITH LDC'S AT VARYING STATGES OF DEVELOPMENT. AUSTRALIA HAD DECIDED SHE WOULD NOT USE "BUREAUCRATS" TO STAFF HER RESEARCH TEAMS, WHICH WAS MAKING THE PROJECT COSTLY FROM A RESOURCES, RATHER THAN MONETARY, POINT OF VIEW. TWO OR THREE POSSIBLE RESEARCH CANDIDATES HAD ALREADY BEEN IDENTIFIED, SAID PARSONS.
ALSTON

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Message Attributes

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